



Sussex County Emergency Medical Services

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NEWS RELEASE

Multiple People Injured at 4th of July Celebration

For Immediate Release:

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04-15

[Georgetown, Delaware] – On July 3, 2004 at about 10:30 p.m. Sussex County EMS and the Dagsboro Volunteer Fire Department responded to a release of pepper spray at the Dagsboro Church of God's Fourth of July celebration. Pepper spray was released from an unknown source into the crowd during the fireworks show, causing about 18 people to be exposed. The Sussex County EMS Special Events and Hazardous Materials Medical Response teams were already standing by at the event, along with several area fire departments. Of the 18 victims, 8 were decontaminated at the scene. Two victims required transport to the hospital; one to Beebe Medical Center in Lewes and the other to Nanticoke Memorial Hospital in Seaford. The remaining victims either refused treatment or were treated and released from the scene. Two additional victims required transport to the hospital after returning home. The Dagsboro Police department is investigating the incident.

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